
John P. Quinn



Deputy Director, Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Readiness Division

Mr. Quinn is currently the senior career civilian responsible for Navy environmental policy, program management and resource allocation, afloat and ashore, world-wide. Administering an annual budget of roughly \$600million, Mr. Quinn oversees Navy environmental planning, species protection, pollution control and prevention, environmental cleanup, outreach, and environmental research and development. Over the latter half of 2008, Mr. Quinn led an unprecedented effort to achieve environmental compliance on three major Navy ranges and operating areas, significantly reducing the Department's vulnerability to legal challenge regarding critical sonar training.

Appointed to the Senior Executive Service in April 2008, Mr. Quinn has 8 years of federal civilian service, in addition to 26 years on active duty in the Navy JAG Corps and Supply Corps.

Mr. Quinn served as Head of the Environmental and Occupational Safety and Health Branch of the Naval Sea Systems Command Office of Counsel from October 2001 through April 2008. In this capacity he provided legal advice and assistance to headquarters elements, affiliated Program Executive Offices, and subordinate shipyards and warfare centers throughout the country.

On special assignment from 2003 through 2005, Mr. Quinn led an interagency, interdisciplinary working group established by the Secretary of the Navy to assess and make recommendations regarding more than \$6 billion in federal tort claims filed by residents of the Island of Vieques. The claims alleged physical, mental and other injury resulting from five decades of military training on the Island. Addressing the legal, environmental, operational, public health, public information and congressional relations dimensions of the claims, the working group enabled the Department to deny the claims in good faith, to prevail in subsequent litigation, and to effectively convey the Navy message to Congress and the American public.

Mr. Quinn served as the first Environmental Counsel to the Chief of Naval Research from December 2000 through October 2001. He guided completion of extensive environmental planning processes in support of the North Pacific Acoustic Laboratory, a long term ocean

research program into climate change involving the use of low frequency sonar across the Pacific Basin.

As an active duty Navy JAG Corps officer, Mr. Quinn served as the Executive Assistant and Special Counsel to the Department of the Navy General Counsel from April 1999 through November 2000.

From 1998 through 1999 Mr. Quinn headed the Navy JAG International and Operational Law Division of the Navy JAG Headquarters, providing legal advice and assistance to Navy units worldwide. During this time he was a member of the U.S. delegation to the International Maritime Organization, protecting Navy interests in the designation of restricted areas at sea.

Serving in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment from 1995 through 1998, Mr. Quinn led the first ever Endangered Species Act consultation on significant Navy training at sea. The effort resulted in a biological opinion for the protection of Right Whales that won the Navy accolades from the Marine Mammal Commission and other environmental stakeholders. During this time Congress enacted the Uniform National Discharge Standards amendment to the Clean Water Act, an initiative for which Mr. Quinn was the Navy's principal architect and spokesman.

Mr. Quinn was commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Supply Corps in 1974, transferring to the Navy JAG Corps in 1982 upon graduation from law school. Among his tours of duty were USS Farragut (DDG-37), USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71), Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Commander Naval Air Forces Atlantic, the Naval Supply Systems Command Headquarters and the Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Readiness Division. He retired as a Captain in 2000.

Mr. Quinn holds a Bachelor of Arts degree [Political Science and Economics], *cum laude*, from Duke University. He also holds a Juris Doctor degree, *cum laude*, from the Georgetown University Law Center, and a Master of Laws [Environmental Law] degree, *with highest honors*, from George Washington University.

Mr. Quinn was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal in 2005. His military decorations include three Legion of Merit Medals, the Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Although not practicing as an attorney in his current position, Mr. Quinn is a member of the Bar of the District of Columbia.